IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1-39   Cancel

40.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a host device having two or more ports configured to be coupled to a sequential device
via corresponding links, wherein the host device is configured to associate a
command identifier with a command, to transmit the command via a first one of
the ports, to detect a failure associated with the transmission of the command via
the first one of the ports, ~~request a status of the command via the second one of~~
~~the ports, receive an indication of a number of data bytes received by the router~~
~~in response to requesting the status of the command and~~ to transmit the
command via a second one of the ports, wherein the host is configured to make
the command identifier explicit in the command, wherein the host device is
configured to request a status of the command via the second one of the ports,
wherein the host device is configured to receive a number of data bytes received
in response to requesting the status of the command, and wherein the host
device is configured to request recovery starting at a next byte following a last
byte previously received and receive acknowledgement of acceptance of
acceptance of the recovery request.

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42.   Cancel

43.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

associating a first command identifier with a first command, ~~wherein associating the first~~
~~command identifier with the first command comprises making the first command~~
~~identifier explicit in the first command;~~
transmitting the first command via a first link;
detecting a failure of the first link;
~~requesting a status of execution of the first command;~~

~~receiving the status of execution of the first command;~~

~~requesting recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received;~~

~~receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request;~~

transmitting at least a portion of the first command and first command identifier via a second link;

<u>prior to transmitting at least a portion of the first command and first command identifier via the second link, requesting a status of execution of the first command, receiving the status of execution of the first command, requesting recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received and receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request;</u>

<u>wherein associating the first command identifier with the first command comprises making the first command identifier explicit in the first command;</u>

44.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the status indicates a number of bytes of the first command actually received by ~~the~~ <u>a</u> router.

45.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product having one or more computer readable media with computer readable program code stored thereon, wherein said computer readable program code is configured to cause a device programmed with the program code to perform the method comprising:

associating a first command identifier with a first command;

transmitting the first command via a first link;

detecting a failure of the first link;

~~requesting a status of execution of the first command;~~

~~receiving the status of execution of the first command;~~

~~requesting recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received;~~

~~receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request; and~~

transmitting at least a portion of the first command and first command identifier via a second link; <u>and</u>

<u>prior to transmitting at least a portion of the first command and the first command identifier via the second link, requesting a status of execution of the first command, receiving the status of execution of the first command, requesting</u>

recovery starting at a next byte following a last byte previously received and receiving acknowledgement of acceptance of the recovery request.

46.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 45, wherein the status indicates a number of bytes of the first command actually received.